Fallowfield
Manchester
4/5/82

Dear Prof. Gray,

I have been working at the Sapotaceae again & gave special attention to Bumelia. may I venture to call your attention to what strikes me as the proper arrangement of the N. American sp; & at the same time ask if you can spare me or procure — at my expense a fair set with duplicates enough for really working out the species

A lycioides has 3 varieties

(α) canescens; foliis & floribus majoribus calyce canescente pedicellis petiolo brevioribus. To this belong the type (Siderox) in the Linnean Herb, & the sp. cultivated in hort. Par & Monsp.

β virescens; foliis siccitate viridis calyce fusco

γ nigrescens foliis minoribus ~~siccitate~~ paginâ sup. nigrescente, inferiore discolore, calyce fusco.

γ seems to me to pass towards

B reclinata wh has far fewer costae & such different venation that even though I have not dissected enough to find floral characters I cannot ~~separa~~ see my way to unite it with A. But it undoubtedly passes into such forms as spiniflora & spinosa figured in the icones Fl. Mex

B. macrocarpa Nutt. I have seen in the British museum. It is (in the absence of fls & fruit) a form of reclinata with fine recurved spines

B tomentosa & lanuginosa are united by you & the Kew material gives no authority for separating them

B angustifolia Nutt. is a form of B. tenax undoubtedly & differs apparently only in the less brilliant indumentum

B. tenax I regard as a good sp

I should be glad to see what form it is that you describe as B. cuneata fr. Key West.

I ask for specimens, but should be grateful for authentically named single leaves even of every Sapotacea you can spare me

I hope you wont regard the remarks as more than suggestions on wh. I beg your criticism.

I trust your passage was good.

I take this opportunity to ask for your photograph. May I offer my compliments to Mrs Gray?

Yours very faithfully

Marcus M Hartog